Remarks

1. Summary of the Office Action Mailed June 27, 2005

In the Office Action Mailed on June 27, 2005, the Examiner allowed claims 15-29, rejected claims 1-10, and objected to claims 11-14. Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,059,921 (Vyne). Claims 11-14 were objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but were noted as being allowable if amended to an independent form including all of the limitations of their respective base claims and intermediary claims.

After thorough review of the current office action and the cited references, Applicant respectively requests favorable reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks.

2. Response to the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Claim Rejections

To anticipate a claim, each and every element set forth in the claim must be found in a single reference. (MPEP § 2131). In view of the amended claims, Applicant submits that Vyne does not teach "a selectable enable signal," or a "selectable signal so as to reflect an operational mode," as recited in claim 1 and claim 2.

Vyne discloses an operational amplifier that has two operational modes (i.e., "sleep mode" and "awake mode"). The operational amplifier "senses" an input signal for operating the operational amplifier (Vyne, Col. 3 lines 15-21). For example, an active current regulator is enabled when a load current exceeds a predetermined threshold value (Vyne, Col. 3 lines 32-35). In another example, a power supply variation is "sensed" (i.e., the operational amplifier is supplied

more power when it becomes active) and a current comparator along with other circuitry is used to enable a current regulator (Vyne, Col. 3 lines 36-53).

In contrast to Vyne, Applicant discloses an operational amplifier that has many selectable operational modes. The operational mode is not "sensed"; rather, it is determined by selectable input and/or output stages (Spec., pg. 8, line 22 – pg. 9, line 2). The selectable input and output stages are enabled by an enable/disable input (Spec., pg. 9 lines 3-12). An example of an enable/disable input is "a voltage signal ranging from 0 to the supply voltage" (Spec., pg. 10 line 5, pg. 13 line 20, and pg. 15, lines 13-15). The enable/disable input signals are also referred to as a "selectable input" and a "selectable output" (Spec. pg. 19, table 1).

The selectable input and/or output stages are coupled to the input terminals of the differential amplifier and arranged to provide signals to the input and/or output stages of the differential amplifier (Spec. pg. 4, lines 8-18). The operational mode, or performance characteristics, can be determined by these input and/or output stages, and in turn, the selectable input and/or output signals.

The configuration of Vyne does not determine the operational mode by a selectable signal, and therefore does not teach a "selectable signal so as to reflect an operational mode," as in the present claims. In contrast, Vyne discloses two operational modes (i.e., "sleep" and "awake") that are "sensed" by changes attributed to the operational signal (i.e., the differential input).

3. Response to the Claim Objections

Claims 11-14 were objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims. However, in view of the above discussion, Applicant believes that all claims are presently in condition for allowance and no amendments to claims 11-14 will be made at this time.

Conclusion

In light of the remarks made above, Applicant submits that claims 1-10 are in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and allowance. Again, Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's representative below at (312) 913-3331 if any questions arise or if he may be of assistance to the Examiner.

Respectfully Submitted,

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